

Please amend claims 1 and 6-10 as follows:

- A/ 1. (Amended) A method for preparing for intraductal retrieval of fluid, cells and/or other material from a breast duct of a patient, comprising:

administering intraductally to the patient an agent that increases retrievable secreted ductal fluid from a breast duct, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a hypotonic solution, a buffered solution, a solution having a pH range of human tissue, blood or sera, a solution having a slightly acid pH, a solution having a slightly basic pH, a nonabsorbable biocompatible solution, a protein, a colloid, a sugar, a polymer, mannitol, sorbitol, glucose, glycerol, sucrose, raffinose, fructose, lactulose, polyethyleneglycol (PEG), maltodextrin, dextran, dextran 70, hydroxyethyl starch, fluid gelatin, a synthetic colloid, an antibody, a binding protein, albumin, a hormone, a natural herb, an extract from a natural herb, silymarin, a surfactant, a growth factor, oxytocin, prolactin, an organic molecule, a muscle relaxant, and a ductal orifice dilator.

- A2 6. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the agent is in a state selected from the group consisting of a non-liquid, a gel, an emulsion, a gas and a semi-solid.

7. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein the agent comprises a carbonated fluid comprising super oxygenated fluid that is colder than room temperature before administration.

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8. (Amended) A method as in claim 1, further comprising collecting a portion of the increased retrievable secreted ductal fluid from the breast duct.

9. (Amended) A method as in claim 8, wherein collecting comprises accessing a breast duct with a device and withdrawing a portion of the increased retrievable secreted ductal fluid into the device.

10. (Amended) A method as in claim 8, further comprising the step of analyzing one or more of cells, fluid or other material in the breast duct after the retrievable secreted fluid has been increased and a portion of it has been collected.

Please add new claims 16-33 as follows:

16. (New) A method for preparing for intraductal retrieval of fluid, cells and/or other material from a breast duct of a patient, comprising:

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administering to the patient an agent that increases retrievable secreted ductal fluid in a breast duct, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a hypotonic solution, a buffered solution, a solution having a pH range of human tissue, blood or sera, a solution having a slightly acid pH, a solution having a slightly basic pH, a nonabsorbable biocompatible solution, a protein, a colloid, a sugar, a polymer, mannitol, sorbitol, glucose, glycerol, sucrose, raffinose, fructose, lactulose, polyethyleneglycol (PEG), maltodextrin, dextran, dextran 70, hydroxyethyl starch, fluid gelatin, a synthetic

colloid, an antibody, a binding protein, albumin, a hormone, a natural herb, an extract from a natural herb, silymarin, a surfactant, a growth factor, oxytocin, prolactin, an organic molecule, a muscle relaxant, and a ductal orifice dilator; accessing the breast duct with a device and withdrawing a portion of the increased retrievable secreted ductal fluid into the device.

17. (New) The method as in claim 16, further comprising the step of analyzing one or more of cells, fluid or other material in the breast duct after said administering and accessing steps.

18. (New) The method as in claim 17 wherein the step of analyzing comprises identifying a marker of a breast condition.

19. (New) The method as in claim 16, wherein said administering is accomplished by a mode selected from the group consisting of administering the agent systemically, and administering the agent topically.

20. (New) The method as in claim 19, wherein the agent is administered systemically.

21. (New) The method as in claim 20 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a hormone, prolactin, a breast duct secretion inducing factor, a natural herb,

an extract from a natural herb, silymarin, a growth factor, a vitamin, a protein, a muscle relaxant, and an organic molecule.

22. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is a nonabsorbable biocompatible solution.

23. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of mannitol and sorbitol.

24. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a sugar, glucose, glycerol, sucrose, raffinose, fructose, and lactulose.

25. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol (PEG), maltodextrin, dextran, and dextran 70.

26. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is an extract from a natural herb.

27. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a growth factor, oxytocin and prolactin.

28. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is a nonabsorbable biocompatible solution.
29. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of mannitol and sorbitol.
30. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a sugar, glucose, glycerol, sucrose, raffinose, fructose, and lactulose.
31. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of polyethyleneglycol (PEG), maltodextrin, dextran, and dextran 70.
32. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is an extract from a natural herb.
33. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a growth factor and prolactin.

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 were pending. Claims 2-5 have been canceled and new claims 16-33 have been added. Therefore, claims 1, 6-11, and 16-33 are pending.